

Dear Members of the Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of HB 5653 - – **AAE AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXCISE TAX ON AMMUNITION TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY GUN VIOLENCE AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM GRANTS.**

Community-led safety initiatives can reduce the level of gun violence across the state. Gun violence costs Connecticut \$2.6 billion each year, of which \$57.1 million is paid by taxpayers. For gun owners, a tax on ammunition is a small price to pay to invest back into the community to help support gun sense in communities deeply wounded by gun violence.

There are other options for gun owners who may choose not to pay an excise tax on ammunition, including the practice of “reloading” which is the application of filling used cartridges with gun powder.

Thank you,

Fiona York  
Citizen of Newington, Connecticut